



The Chimes

Newsletter

November 2016



Tourism WA/ Royalties for Regions Grant for the Museum Gift Shop

New Norcia is delighted to announce that it has been successful in obtaining a Tourism WA/Royalties for Regions grant of \$11,350.00 for upgrades in the museum and art gallery shop and visitors' centre. These funds will allow us to paint the walls, restore the wooden floors in the office/store room area, and purchase new shop fittings for the display of merchandise as recommended by the tourism WA consultants who recently assessed the MAG.



The Regional Visitor Centre Sustainability Grant Program, made possible by Tourism Western Australia and Royalties for Regions, is helping visitor centres remain viable in the changing tourism landscape.

Premier and Tourism Minister Colin Barnett said the investment of \$4.2 million over three years recognised the vital role of visitor centres in boosting regional tourism and jobs.

"Research shows travellers tend to spend more time and money in an area when they use a visitor centre," Mr Barnett said.

Projects supported in the latest round include a new design and upgraded technology at Broome Visitor Centre; an internal fit-out at Derby, Aboriginal artwork and seating at Halls Creek, and new signage for the Kununurra Visitor Centre and Argyle Downs Homestead Museum.

"Tourists spent \$4.5 billion in regional Western Australia in 2015-16. By offering a warm welcome and a wealth of local knowledge, visitor centres play a vital role in this important industry," the Premier said.

"Overall, visitor centres employ more than 900 local people and inject \$117 million into the State's economy annually."

Regional Development Minister Terry Redman said more than \$1 million was available in the 2016-17 round to assist regional visitor centres throughout the State with sustainability initiatives such as accreditation, renewable energy, on-site attractions, technology and interior redesign.

The Good Oil

The New Norcia olive oil won a bronze medal at the **Perth Royal Show** this year with the judges commenting that the oil had a "pleasant bouquet of tropical fruit with tomato leaf. Capsicum and nutty flavours complemented nose well. Mild pleasant bitterness and lingering pungency lingers."

Thanks to the dedicated picking team of Catenians, volunteers and staff. This delicious oil is for sale through the Museum Gift Shop and the online shop.



Swimming Pool Decommissioned.

New Norcia Services has regrettably made the decision to decommission the swimming pool.

Due to ongoing maintenance issues, water restrictions, risk management and safety concerns New Norcia Services is no longer able to provide this service to our guests and the wider community of Victoria Plains who have all enjoyed the use of the pool in the summer months since it was opened in the early 1970's.



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NEW NORCIA WRITERS' FESTIVAL 2016

A celebration of –
books, music, dance, history, food and conversation.

New Norcia Writers' festival featured diverse and engaging presenters this year. John Kinsella and Tracy Ryan kicked the day off with poetry readings and a fascinating insight into their juxtaposition as partners in each other's writing process. Hearing the authors speaking about their work with such candour was a unique opportunity. Ron Elliot, author of *Burn Patterns*, drew from his script writing experience and used members of the audience to role play excerpts of his fascinating book which delves into the worlds of

arsonists, profilers and therapy.

After a tasting rosé, merlot and chardonnay from the New Norcia Abbey wine range and a lovely buffet lunch, Natasha Lester and Will Yeoman acted a selection of emotionally charged scenes from her book, *A Kiss from Mr Fitzgerald*, an evocative love story of a small town girl with big ambitions set in 1920's New York. Dom Robert Nixon provided the accompanying jazz music. Rashida Murphy spoke thoughtfully and honestly as a well informed feminist writer and immigrant giving a real insight into her novel, *The Historians' Daughter*.

Crows Books kindly travelled up from Victoria Park in Perth and provided everyone with the opportunity to purchase the authors' books. The feedback was immensely positive and we look forward to announcing our 2017 line up.

Contributed by Lucy Nicholson



Benedictine Institute Reading Weekends in 2016.

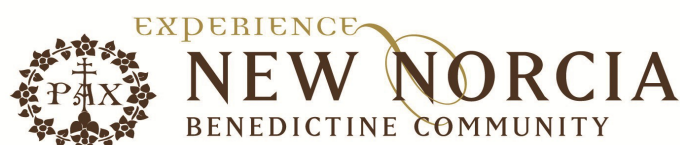


Student reading in the Institute classroom

This year *The New Norcia Institute for Benedictine Studies* presented four intensive reading weekends. These weekends cater for people who are not particularly interested in academic studies, but simply want to delve deeper into their own understanding of God's ways in their lives. By popular request, Sr Carmel repeated the weekend on "Listening to Hildegard", a feast of not only the visions, but also the music, medicine, illuminations and life of this multimedia mystic. Sr Jill guided participants through the Mystery of the Eucharist and its meaning for our daily lives. In celebration of the Church's Year of Mercy, Sr Marg unpacked the riches of Cardinal Walter Kasper's latest book on mercy. To top off the year, Fr David's reading weekend focused on the essentials of "Being a Christian" – Baptism, Bible, Eucharist and Prayer, using a book by Rowan Williams. These weekends proved to be times of deep reflection and challenge.

Given the popularity of these weekends we are offering four in 2017: one on the meaning of foot-washing in the Christian tradition; one on tools for good living based on the Rule of Benedict; another on the wisdom and meaning of discernment from the monastic tradition and its application to our lives; and finally a weekend with women mystics from the 13th century.

Contributed by Dr Carmel Posa sgs





Abbot Rooney and Fr David in their costumes!

THE MONKS PERFORM

On Saturday 20th August the monks, sisters, staff and friends of New Norcia performed selected Cantos from Dante's "The Divine Comedy", under the direction of Walter Cerquetti Lippi.

Eighty people attended this very special day and were treated to four different sessions concentrating on Hell, Purgatory and Paradise, the words interspersed by monastic chants, psalms and hymns sung by

soprano Mary Creed. Musical interludes from Dom Robert Nixon were a delightful addition. A delicious, authentic Italian lunch was created by Marlon Victoriano and Rosemary Taylor, and was consumed with much enthusiasm. The day ended with a reflection session led by Walter and an afternoon tea supplied by New Norcia Bakeries. The day was deemed a great success by all, with very positive feedback - we have Walter booked in to come back in 2018 to direct a performance of the Life of Benedict !

Contributed by Lucy Nicholson



Mary Creed and Fr David

“ Congratulations on a fantastic event yesterday. It exceeded all expectations. I only regret that I had to leave before the reflections. I am sure that there was a lot of interesting discussion. “

Peter Quinlan SC

THE 2016 NEW NORCIA LIBRARY LECTURE

Many thanks to Carolyn Talbot, New Norcia Librarian, and all the New Norcia crew for another lovely day at this special heritage site that included very interesting presentations and a tour of the New Norcia cemetery. And not forgetting shopping at the local store for New Norcia delicacies! It is always lovely to catch up with the monks, colleagues, and to make new friends. There were four speakers this year, all with a very different story to tell.

Dr Toby Burrows from *eResearch Support* at the University of Western Australia gave a fascinating description of the toing and froing that he has been undertaking to locate the provenance of the Sir Thomas Phillipps collection, dispersed all over the world and much of it difficult to locate as some of the items are owned privately. Why Sir Thomas Phillipps (1837 – 1871), the illegitimate child of a calico factory worker and a servant? Phillipps apparently began collecting as a wee lad and over time rose to fame, made lots of money and kept collecting mainly vellum manuscripts. Toby's more recent efforts were assisted by a Marie Curie Fellowship from the European Union and you can read more about this here: <https://tobyburrows.wordpress.com/> where he emphasises the importance of the provenance of collections. And Toby is also investigating the best data model to use for recording such an adventure. Another most interesting example of the interests that librarians take up.



Soraya Majidi from Albany Public Library and Laura Parker from Gingin gave a wonderfully enthusiastic description of Little Free Library outreach programmes. Albany Public Library's experience is with the Alkaline café and Laura, a mother who wanted her sons to continue to read books, set up the Neergabby Little Free Library outside her home at Gingin. The take a book, leave a book gave locals and others the opportunity to continue to engage with books and an outreach activity for local libraries.

After the usual very tasty lunch in St Gertrude's College we had former long term New Norcia Librarian, Sue Johnson, guide us as we rambled through a different aspect and a tour of the New Norcia Cemetery. Then historian Clare Menck described some of the work that she had done on heritage research of the Forestry settlement at Mundaring Weir which was demolished in 2012. The condition of demolition by the History Council of WA was that the village history was recorded. Clare extolled the virtue of libraries and their staff in assisting with locating information

and included examples of what worked best for her as a work at home mother. See you in 2017!

Contributed by Dr Kerry Smith FALIA, AM



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Photo by Justin Bianchini

L to R ; Peter Hocking, Abbot John Herbert, Cathrin Cassarchis, Dom Michael Tunney, and Mayor Heather Henderson.

Archives Studies Journal Launch

On Thursday, November 3rd, at the Palms Community Centre in Subiaco, two further Archives works were launched. The first was the annual *Studies Journal*, the 23rd such issue and, at 130 pages, the most comprehensive edition Archives has so far produced.

The second was Stefano Girola's translation of Rosendo Salvado's 1900 Report to Propaganda Fide, the sequel to the very popular 1883 Report which was launched last year. Although, at 106 pages, it is not as long as its predecessor, it

nevertheless carries on the New Norcia story up until shortly before Salvado's death in Rome in

December 1900, and is still fascinating reading. Ms Cathrin Cassarchis, the WA State Archivist, very graciously accepted Abbot John's invitation to launch the Journal which was appropriately named *Voices from the Archives*. The Archives Research and Publications Committee are particularly grateful to Cathrin for taking on the mammoth task of reading all nine papers and two obituaries, together with the 1900 Report. As Fr John commented at the Launch, when Cathrin was initially invited to do the launch, no one suspected that the publications would be quite so voluminous!

The Archives and the Community are once again most grateful to Mayor Heather Henderson for her wonderful hospitality not only in providing the venue, but also the catering which was, as always, superb.

Contributed by Peter Hocking, Archivist

New Norcia Farm

The last shearing of the Benedictine flock took place in October, the six stand shearing shed, at full capacity was an impressive sight to behold. The team shored over 3000 sheep with eight months wool, yielding 73 bales. The wool yielded at 74% wool, and topped the market when it was sold. The



main flock of ewes were sold at the Moora ewe dispersal sale. The sale contained two historic sheep flocks, New Norcia's and Colvin studs. The combined yarding of over 8000 sheep attracted widespread local and interstate interest, with the majority of the Benedictine

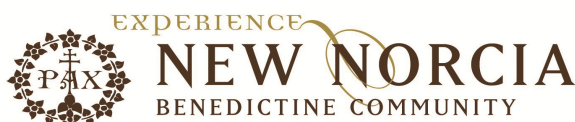
flock ending up staying in Western Australia, going to Boyup Brook, Muntadgin and Badgingarra. Industry representatives commented on the excellent quality of the line up. Canola swathing started early in October, and has now all been delivered to the purchaser turning off 2.1 tonnes to the hectare with an oil content of 47 %, the Lupins have been harvested and Peter and Jon have just started on the wheat which looks like is should deliver a heavy tonnage too.



It is with deep sadness that we inform our Chimes readers of the death of our farm consultant of some 35 years, David Bedbrook.

May he rest in peace.

Reflections on David's life will be published in the December 2016 edition of 'Friends'.



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NEW NORCIA STALL AT AGGIE'S COTTAGE.

26th November 12—7pm

We are very excited to be taking a pop up stall to Aggies Cottage Christmas Markets in Dandaragan!

Come and enjoy live music, gourmet food, a licensed bar, family entertainment and a fantastic range of gorgeous shops including the New Norcia stall overflowing with goodies !

For more details visit their face book page; <https://www.facebook.com/wolbawolbaaggiescottage/>

"The Invincibles"

Did you know that between 1879 and 1906 a Aboriginal Cricket Team from New Norcia became known as the Invincibles some 70 years before Don Bradman's more famous Invincibles. Encouraged by Abbot Dom Salvado the 'New Norcians' were initially coached by Henry Lefroy from Walebing who incidentally later became the 11th premier of Western Australia, soon captured the imagination of the Perth media and public in and around the young colony. The boys had to trek to Perth to play and such became their mastery of the game and winning sequences they became known as the Invincibles.



A re-enactment match between an Indigenous XI against a Community XI is being planned for early 2017 for which has received the blessing of Abbot John Herbert. The match seeks to highlight the early and continuing contribution that our Indigenous Sportsmen and women have made to our sporting culture. We encourage school groups, children and those from other cultures and minorities to learn more about the fabulous achievements of this team from over 130 years ago.

Supporting the concept and planning for this event includes John McGuire who captained the Aboriginal Team to England for the 1988 Bicentenary celebrations, the Author of the *Invincibles* Bob Reece, as well as from Larry Kickett, the WACA Indigenous Programs Coordinator.

Whilst the date and location for the match are soon to be determined we encourage those who may have an interest in being a participant, supporter or player to contact;

Mr Marzio Da Re at ridgeydidge55@gmail.com or 0499 812 882. Marzio is a former student of St Benedict's College from the early 1970's, has recently retired and lives in Perth.

Group Accommodation - Cleanest dorm Competition

Since 2013, the Education Centre has been running a competition to see which group leaves their venue the cleanest after their camp. Once again, the standards have been extremely high this year and it has definitely been a difficult decision for the New Norcia cleaning staff. There was a large number of groups in the running for 1st place but one school went that extra mile.

The Education Centre is proud to announce the winner

Cleanest Dorm Competition 2016
Swan Valley Anglican Community School

Congratulations to all the groups for respecting our beautiful buildings.



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Inspirational Baroque Paintings at St John of God Healthcare, Perth

A small group of Baroque paintings, usually on display at the Museum & Art Gallery of New Norcia, has travelled to Perth for an unusual exhibition in the busy hallways of St John of God healthcare venues. The display aims to raise awareness of the depth and quality of the New Norcia collection which began with the arrival of two Marian paintings – Our Lady of Good Counsel in 1853 and Divine Shepherdess in 1849. Both were given to New Norcia’s founder, Rosendo Salvado, by benefactors in Europe.

Today the Collection is a large, multi-faceted body of artworks including; a small but important group of 19th century works-on-paper of New Norcia, the place, commissioned by Salvado for reporting, promotion and fund-raising purposes in Europe, and approximately 60 European religious paintings from the 17th and 18th centuries originally placed around the Monastery, Church and Colleges as objects of inspiration and devotion.



Paintings on display at St John of God Hospital Murdoch

Contributed by Marina Baker, Collections Manager

IMPORTANT CONVERSATIONS:

Significant religious artworks from New Norcia’s contemporary collection

This exhibition features contemporary Australian artworks inspired by the Christian narrative. The works date from the 1930s to the present day. For most of the artists – believers or not – traditional Western religious art seems to have imprinted on them a powerful iconography for dealing with the central issues of human life. **Australian Gallery** (1st floor to the right)



Weaver Hawkins *Golgotha Scene* 195
New Norcia Collection 2007.29



Barak and the Queen of Sheba by a Follower of Solimena c18th 1975.823

There are over 160 contemporary Australian religious artworks acquired mainly since the mid 1980s for exhibition at the Museum and Art Gallery. This developing body of artworks is the only known public collection dedicated to Judeo-Christian art in the country. The Collection continues to grow and develop, with the tax deductible status of the New Norcia Art Collection under the Commonwealth Government’s Cultural Gifts Program attracting substantial national artworks to contemplate and be inspired by. Long may it flourish!

Paintings on display at St John of God Hospital Murdoch until 30th April 2017

New Norcia Hotel

The chase the ace jackpot has reached
\$1200.00!!

Maybe you should pop in for a beer this Friday!

CHASE THE ACE

EVERY FRIDAY - 6:30pm to 8pm

TICKETS AVAILABLE WITH EVERY DRINK PURCHASED



JACKPOT STARTS AT
\$100



Museum & Art Gallery of New Norcia
From 4th September 2016 until 2018

You can take the girl out of New Norcia, but ...

We laughed, we cried, we talked, we walked, we prayed, we sang, we ate and drank.

The annual migration of remnants of the SGC class of '66 to New Norcia took place from October 21st to 24th. It was a particularly special occasion for us, marking the fiftieth anniversary of our departure from St Gertrude's. As seventeen year olds in brown box-pleated tunics, it could never have crossed our minds that we would one day reach the ripe old age of sixty seven, let alone be celebrating together, back where it all began. And how different it is! Hot water! Lights after 9.00 p.m.! Luxury! Welcomed warmly as always, we celebrated our anniversary with the whole community. Everyone knew who we were and why we were there. Fêted royally, we were entertained at a virtuosic recital by Dom Robert, followed by Abbey Sparkling Wine and canapés. At High Mass on Sunday we received a special blessing from Abbot John. We were treated to a delectable lunch with the Community and post-prandial coffee in the parlour, chatting with our monastic friends. Touchingly, we each received a beautifully presented gift to commemorate the occasion. By that stage we were all a bit teary, as ladies of a certain age often are.



We are blest in our continuing sisterhood. It is a mighty thing to be able to slip back into this friendship without a murmur. This year the experience was heightened by the presence of Sr Leonie Mayne rsj, a much-loved former teacher.

As always, our thanks must go to Toni Tejada for her superb organisation and friendship, and to the hotel staff for delicious catering.

*Contributed by Gay Pulker
Old Girl.*

Thank you for all you did to make our weekend at New Norcia such a memorable one - you all went out of your way to ensure we had a great time, starting with the bottles of sparkly waiting for us! What a treat.

*Monica Mulcahy – Ex Student of St Gertrude's College
Class of 66*

Museum and Art Gallery Famil

A whole host of visitor centre tourism operators from the Avon Valley and beyond were invited to New Norcia in October. The day was a greatly enjoyed by everyone, it was wonderful to see the group exchange stories and information about their towns and of course share lots of tourism tips. It was very productive to get visitor centre staff together, promoting collaboration and communication between the towns in the region, resulting in better customer service for all visitors to the area. After being treated to a delicious morning tea at the Hotel, Carmel Murray took the group on a town tour followed by the opportunity to take in the galleries and the exhibitions at the Museum. Feedback from the group was very positive and we intend to follow up with a bus company famil in the New Year.



"We would like to express our thanks in being invited to tour the New Norcia Benedictine property recently. We found the tour most interesting and thought provoking. The tour helped us in describing your wonderful and well organised professional tours of the property."

*Mike and Dianne Miller
Gingin Railway Station*





CHRISTMAS at NEW NORCIA

CHRISTMAS EVE

Saturday, 24 December 2016

6.30pm Vespers

8.15pm Vigils

10.30pm 'Midnight' Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY

Sunday, 25 December 2016

7.45am Lauds

9.00am Conventual Mass

12.00noon Midday Prayer

5.30pm Solemn Vespers
with Exposition & Benediction

ECUMENICAL CAROL SERVICE

Monday, 2 January, 2017

4.00pm Afternoon Tea in the Parlour
5.00pm Service of Readings and Carols



Great Northern Highway, New Norcia WA 6509
www.newnorcia.wa.edu.au



NEW NORCIA CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

Roadhouse: 24th Dec 7.30am - 4 pm, Closed Christmas Day.

Boxing Day 9am-3pm,

Public Hols 8.30am - 4pm.

Hotel: Closes at 3pm on Christmas Eve.
Closed Christmas Day and Boxing
day. New Years Day 12 -9pm.

Limited menu available on the 24th and the 27th December

Museum: Closed Christmas day and Boxing
day.

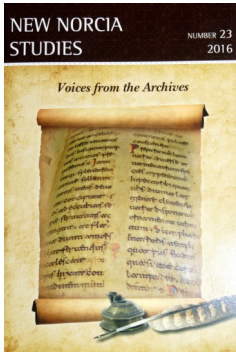
Guesthouse: Closed Christmas day and Boxing
day.

Admin: Closed from 3pm on Christmas Eve
until 3rd January 2017 .

*We wish everyone
a happy and
safe Christmas*



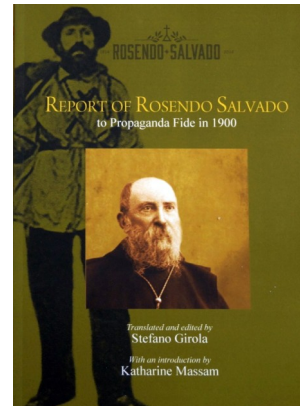
**New Norcia Gift shop
Books of the Month**



2016 Studies Journal – Voices from the Archives.
Issue 23, our largest issue yet, includes articles such as “the Well diggers of New Norcia”, “Salvado’s Archives” “Print Impressions of the Yued Noongar” and “Cash, Convicts and Catholicism”
\$30.00
Available from our online shop or the Museum gift shop.

Bishop Salvado’s 1900 Report to Propaganda Fide

The fifth book in the Archives’ series of works inspired by, or as a consequence of, the Abbot Placid Spearritt Memorial Scholarship. Dr Stefano Girola’s translation of *Bishop Salvado’s 1900 Report to Propaganda Fide* is the second English translation by Stefano of Salvado’s Reports – the 1883 Report was launched at Subiaco last year.
\$19.95



Come and visit us in the Museum shop for a range of wonderful Christmas gifts and don't forget if you wish to taste the delicious New Norcia products the Museum and Art gallery do tastings every day from 11am -3.30pm

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE

Gillingarra Christmas Tree & Farewell to Birkles

Saturday 10th December 2016

Gillingarra Hall

**3.30pm Games under 8's
Activities for Syrs +**

SANTA TO ARRIVE 4.30pm SHARP!

**Please Bring a Plate to Share for Tea
(after present giving)**

BYO Drinks & esky (for Adults)

**RSVP Number of Children attending only
Phone OR text Barb 0429 050 318**

**SMALL GIFTS TO THE VALUE OF \$10.00
TO BE PLACED IN BAG LOCATED ON THE
BACK OF NOMINATED UTE IN THE CARPARK**

**Event is on FACEBOOK:
"Gillingarra Christmas Tree 2016"
Any problems finding it pls message Barb**

All ages plus any extra friends and family most welcome! Pass the Word Around